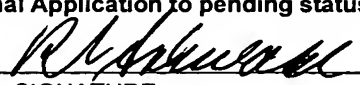


<b>TRANSMITTAL LETTER TO THE UNITED STATES DESIGNATED/ELECTED OFFICE (DO/EO/US) CONCERNING A FILING UNDER 35 U.S.C. 371</b>		ATTORNEY'S DOCKET NUMBER
		016906-0397
INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO. PCT/EP2003/012729	INTERNATIONAL FILING DATE 11/14/2003	U.S. APPLICATION NO. (If known, see 37 C.F.R. 1.5) 10/538,884
		PRIORITY DATE CLAIMED 12/14/2002
TITLE OF INVENTION CLAMP FOR FASTENING AND CONNECTING TUBES		
APPLICANT(S) FOR DO/EO/US Holger AUCHTER and Michel BRUN		
Applicant herewith submits to the United States Designated/Elected Office (DO/EO/US) the following items and other information:		
<p>1. <input type="checkbox"/> This is a <b>FIRST</b> submission of items concerning a filing under 35 U.S.C. 371.</p> <p>2. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> This is a <b>SECOND</b> or <b>SUBSEQUENT</b> submission of items concerning a filing under 35 U.S.C. 371.</p> <p>3. <input type="checkbox"/> This is an express request to begin national examination procedures (35 U.S.C. 371(f)). The submission must include items (5), (6), (9) and (21) indicated below.</p> <p>4. <input type="checkbox"/> The US has been elected (Article 31).</p> <p>5. <input type="checkbox"/> A copy of the International Application as filed (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(2))</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;"><input type="checkbox"/> is attached hereto (required only if not communicated by the International Bureau).</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;"><input type="checkbox"/> has been communicated by the International Bureau.</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;"><input type="checkbox"/> is not required, as the application was filed in the United States Receiving Office (RO/US).</p> <p>6. <input type="checkbox"/> An English language translation of the International Application as filed (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(2)).</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;"><input type="checkbox"/> is attached hereto.</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;"><input type="checkbox"/> has been previously submitted under 35 U.S.C. 154(d)(4).</p> <p>7. <input type="checkbox"/> Amendments to the claims of the International Application under PCT Article 19 (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(3))</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;"><input type="checkbox"/> are attached hereto (required only if not transmitted by the International Bureau).</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;"><input type="checkbox"/> have been communicated by the International Bureau.</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;"><input type="checkbox"/> have not been made; however, the time limit for making such amendments has NOT expired.</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;"><input type="checkbox"/> have not been made and will not be made.</p> <p>8. <input type="checkbox"/> An English language translation of the amendments to the claims under PCT Article 19 (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(3)).</p> <p>9. <input type="checkbox"/> An oath or declaration of the inventor(s) (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(4)).</p> <p>10. <input type="checkbox"/> An English language translation of the annexes to the International Preliminary Examination Report under PCT Article 36 (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(5)).</p>		
Items 11 to 20 below concern other document(s) or information included:		
<p>11. <input type="checkbox"/> An Information Disclosure Statement under 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98.</p> <p>12. <input type="checkbox"/> An assignment document for recording. A separate cover sheet in compliance with 37 CFR 3.28 and 3.31 is included.</p> <p>13. <input type="checkbox"/> A preliminary amendment.</p> <p>14. <input type="checkbox"/> An Application Data Sheet under 37 CFR 1.76.</p> <p>15. <input type="checkbox"/> A substitute specification.</p> <p>16. <input type="checkbox"/> A power of attorney and/or change of address letter.</p> <p>17. <input type="checkbox"/> A computer-readable form of the sequence listing in accordance with PCT Rule 13ter.2 and 37 CFR 1.821 – 1.825</p> <p>18. <input type="checkbox"/> A second copy of the published international application under 35 U.S.C. 154(d)(4).</p> <p>19. <input type="checkbox"/> A second copy of the English language translation of the international application under 35 U.S.C. 154(d)(4).</p> <p>20. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other items or information: Power of Attorney or Authorization of Agent by Assignee and Statement Under 37 CFR 3.73(b).</p>		

U.S. APPLICATION NO. (If known, see 37 CFR. 1.5) <b>10/538,884</b>		INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO. <b>PCT/EP2003/012729</b>		ATTORNEY'S DOCKET NUMBER <b>016906-0397</b>	
The following fees have been submitted:					
21. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Basic national fee			<b>\$300</b>	\$ 0.00
22. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Examination fee				\$ 0.00
If International preliminary examination report prepared by USPTO and all claims satisfy provisions of PCT Article 33(1)-(4)				\$100	
All other situations				\$200	
23. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Search fee				
Search fee (37 CFR 1.445(a)(2)) has been paid on the international application to the USPTO as an International Searching Authority				\$100	
International Search Report prepared and provided to the Office				\$400	
All other situations				\$500	\$ 0.00
<b>TOTAL OF ABOVE 21, 22 and 23 =</b>					\$ 0.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Additional fee for specification and drawings filed in paper over 100 sheets (excluding sequence listing or computer program listing filed in an electronic medium). The fee is \$ for each additional 50 sheets of paper or fraction thereof.					
Total Sheets		Extra sheets		Number of each additional 50 or fraction thereof (round up to a whole number)	RATE
12	- 100 =	0	/50 =	0	x \$250.00
					\$ 0.00
Surcharge of \$130.00 for furnishing the oath or declaration later than 30 months from the earliest claimed priority date (37 CFR 1.492(e))					\$ 0.00
CLAIMS		NUMBER FILED		NUMBER EXTRA	RATE
Total Claims		12	- 20 =	0	x \$ 50.00
Independent Claims		1	- 3 =	0	x \$ 200.00
MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM(S) (if applicable)					+ \$ 360.00
<b>TOTAL OF ABOVE CALCULATIONS =</b>					\$ 0.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27. Fees above are reduced by 1/2.					\$ 0.00
<b>SUBTOTAL =</b>					\$ 0.00
Processing fee of 130.00 for furnishing the English translation later than 30 months from the earliest claimed priority date (37 CFR 1.492(i)).					\$
<b>TOTAL NATIONAL FEE =</b>					\$ 0.00
Fee for recording the enclosed assignment (37 CFR 1.21(h)). The assignment must be accompanied by an appropriate cover sheet (37 CFR 3.28, 3.31). 40.00 per property					\$
<b>TOTAL FEES ENCLOSED =</b>					\$ 0.00
					Amount to be refunded:
					charged:
<p>a. <input type="checkbox"/> A check in the amount of <u>\$0.00</u> to cover the above fees is enclosed.</p> <p>b. <input type="checkbox"/> Please charge my Deposit Account No. <u>19-0741</u> in the amount of _____ to cover the above fees. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.</p> <p>c. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. <u>19-0741</u>. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.</p> <p>d. <input type="checkbox"/> Fees are to be charge to a credit card. <b>WARNING:</b> Information on this form may become public. <b>Credit card information should not be included on this form.</b> Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038.</p>					
<p><b>NOTE:</b> Where an appropriate time limit under 37 CFR 1.495 has not been met, a petition to revive (37 CFR 1.137(a) or (b)) must be filed and granted to restore the International Application to pending status.</p>					
SEND ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO:					
Foley & Lardner LLP			 SIGNATURE		
Customer Number: 22428			Richard L. Schwaab		
			NAME		
			25,479		
			REGISTRATION NUMBER		